



MONROE THIS WEEK

Edition 11 March 18, 2016



Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas
gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Patsy Cudaback
Kevin Hanford
Ed Davis
Jason Gamble
Jim Kamp
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City Hall

806 West Main Street
Monroe, WA 98272
Phone: 360.794.7400
Open 8AM – 5PM, M-F

Appointment Openings

No Openings At This Time

Job Openings

Construction Inspector
Seasonal Wastewater Treatment
Plant Operator
Maintenance Person II
Senior Planner

Events this Week

- 03/19** *Community Drug Awareness & Education Workshop, Monroe Boys & Girls Club, 3PM, FREE*
- ARTiGras Fundraiser Auction, Evergreen Fairgrounds 4-H Building, 5-10PM, \$35*
- 03/22** *City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 7PM*
- 03/26** *20th Annual Monroe Community Egg Hunt, Lake Tye Park, 9-11AM, FREE*

From the Office of Mayor Thomas

To highlight some of the things going on in our community, I am writing this weekly city update, "Monroe This Week. If you have any suggestions or questions regarding "Monroe This Week" or the stories below, please contact me at GThomas@MonroeWa.gov.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

Be In The Know!

Call for Downtown Art Issued!!

Installing art in public spaces is one way to attract people to our community and customers to retail areas, including downtowns. Last year, Council adopted the 2016 Budget, which included \$10,000 toward developing a work of art in downtown. The work is expected to be installed on one of the sidewalks, likely on one of the corner areas where there is extra space, such as at Lewis and Main Street.

At the Tuesday, March 15, City Council Meeting, I recommended and City Council approved a new policy to establish art on City owned property. The City issued a "Call for Sculptors" to install a work of art in downtown Monroe on March 16, 2016. As we move forward, City staff will work with a selection committee that will include one person from each of the following groups: Downtown Monroe Association, Monroe Arts Council, Monroe Chamber of Commerce, City of Monroe Planning Commission, City of Monroe Parks Board, City Council, and City staff. The selection committee will make a recommendation to the City Council for the selected artist. We are hopeful to have the artwork installed around Thanksgiving this year. I truly value the partnerships with all of our non-profit organizations in Monroe and the investment from our City Council in developing artwork in our community. THANK YOU!!!

City of Monroe Year-to-Date Comparisons

The following are year-to-date comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'15 to 2/28/15: \$689,197

'16 to 2/29/16: \$791,353

UP \$102,156 or 14.82%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'15 to 2/28/15: \$59,145

'16 to 2/29/16: \$149,811

UP \$90,666 or 153.29%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'15 to 2/28/15: \$7,088

'16 to 2/29/16: \$9,511

UP \$2,423 or 34.19%

Business License Fees

'15 to 2/28/15: \$8,400

'16 to 2/29/16: \$8,946

UP \$546 or 6.50%

Building Permit Revenues

'15 to 2/28/15: \$70,485

'16 to 2/29/16: \$39,717

DOWN \$30,767 or -43.65%

Planning Fee Revenues

'15 to 2/28/15: \$1,975

'16 to 2/29/16: \$5,975

UP \$4,000 or 202.53%

New House Permits

'15 to 2/28/15: 16

'16 to 2/29/16: 9

DOWN 7 units or 44%

Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'15 to 2/28/15: 13

'16 to 2/29/16: 2

DOWN 11 units or 85%

Building Division Inspections

'15 to 2/28/15: 238

'16 to 2/29/16: 266

UP 28 or 11.8%

Call for Sculptors!

The City of Monroe is seeking submissions for an outdoor sculpture, which may be interactive, to be installed on the public sidewalk on the northwest corner of Main and Lewis Streets in the newly-renovated Downtown Plaza Area. The proposal should express a connection to the City of Monroe, the character of the specific display location, and reflect the City's diversity. Artists are strongly encouraged to visit the actual installation site.

The deadline for entries is April 25, 2016, by 5:00 p.m. Artist selection will be notified by Friday, June 3, 2016 and artist installation will need to occur no later than November 23, 2016.

For information regarding eligibility, specifications, selection process, submittal of materials and selection criteria, please visit www.monroewa.gov/parksnews.

Sky to Sound Water Trail Meeting

Monday, March 14, 2016, I welcomed people from a variety of agencies and non-profits who attended the monthly "Sky to Sound Water Trail" workshop. These organizations are working together to promote recreation and develop infrastructure to support recreation along the Sky River all the way to the Puget Sound. Among other efforts, the organizations are identifying areas to develop or improve stopping points, parking areas, restrooms, and other facilities along the Skykomish and Snohomish River. I appreciate the work this group is doing and look forward to Monroe being part of developing facilities and promoting the Sky to Sound Water Trail.

Rural Tourism Workshop

Last week, over 60 area stakeholders, including several representatives from our community attended two of six planned Rural Tourism Workshops that focus on the Skykomish and Snohomish River Valley. Participants worked on creating a vision for the regional Skykomish and Snohomish River Valley regional tourism story and began shaping a plan to tell the story. Four more workshops are being planned with dates and locations TBA. These workshops have relevance for small businesses, service groups, non-profits, local leaders, interested public, volunteers and elected officials. The workshops are sponsored by the Snohomish County Tourism Bureau and Snohomish County Department of Economic Development.

MONROE!! Mark Your Calendar!!! It's Egg Hunt Time!

The 20th Annual Monroe Community Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 26th at Lake Tye Park. The event kicks off at 9:00 a.m. with lots of fun, free activities including face painting, fun games, arts & crafts and pictures with the Easter Bunny. The Egg Hunt starts at 10:00 a.m. sharp! All kids up through 10 years of age are welcome to hunt for eggs. Be sure not to miss this great fun, family-oriented event!

Monroe Fire District No. 3/Sno. Co. Fire District No. 7

At the March 15, 2016, Board of Commissioners Fire Meeting, Snohomish County Fire District No. 7 accepted a petition from Monroe Fire District No. 3 to merge districts. Voters will be able to approve the vote during the August 2, 2016, Primary Election.

Projects!

About half of the concrete sidewalk on this project has been installed, with the other half to be completed as the weather allows. In the coming days we will see more concrete, more signal construction, and perhaps some street lights too!

